



Quality Council
Monday, October 27, 2003
3:30-5:00 p.m.
Conference Room 6A, Exchange Building
821 Second Avenue, Seattle WA 98104

Members Attending:

Ron Sterling, Chair
Howard Miller, Chair, King County Mental Health Advisory Board
Eleanor Owen
Frank Jose
Alice Howell
Steven Collins
Richard Hart
Kali Henderson
Alberto Gallego

Staff Present:

Lisbeth Gilbert

Guests:

Christine Hearth
Randy Polidan
Kelli Nomura

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Ron Sterling called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Meeting participants introduced themselves.

III. PREVIOUS MEETING NOTES APPROVAL

Members read and approved the previous meeting notes. Corrections on dates and times will be made by Lisbeth Gilbert.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Lisbeth passed around the members' mailing list and asked all present to check addresses for accuracy and to please add current email addresses as well.
- Lisbeth introduced Melisande Noe as the new QC note taker.

V. QUALITY COUNCIL APPLICATION PROCEDURES

The conversation focused on by-law language and the application requirements.

Ron Sterling provided an edited version of the by-laws based on feedback from QC members. After much discussion surrounding language, a motion was made to accept the changes and was passed unanimously.

VI. MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA AND RIGHTS

Members were advised to mark up their copy of the membership application with comments and to send them to Ron. Comments can be sent via email and the language will be codified at the next meeting.

VII. FORUMS

A draft letter to the three local NAMI affiliates was distributed. Frank Jose commented that the letter did appear to emphasize the intent for the forums. He suggested decreasing the amount of background information about the QC and honing in on the intent for these forums; to gather information, provide education, and answer questions, and the agenda for each.

Eleanor Owen added that the forum's mission is to "go out and get feedback we don't get via reports and staff" and that it would be helpful to state that. She added that she wanted to hear "that voiceless voice we never get." Alice remarked that consumers might have a hard time giving feedback without being put on the spot, but that families could feel free to comment. Lisbeth noted that an RSN staff person will be available at each forum to answer questions. After additional discussion, Eleanor volunteered to redraft the letter for QC review.

VIII. MENTAL HEALTH PLAN REPORT CARD

This was not discussed.

IX. RSN UPDATE – Lisbeth Gilbert

Center for Medicaid Services (CMS) sent a letter to the State Mental Health Division (MHD) rejecting four items submitted by the MHD: the RSN contract template, actuarial certification, the revised waiver, and the amendment to the state's mental health plan. The State's Corrective Action Plan is due to CMS in early November 2003 and if approved, must be implemented within sixty days.

MHCADSD is the data collector for the External Quality Review, while Washington Institute for Mental Illness Research and Training (WIMIRT) does analysis.

King, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties were selected as demonstration sites for the Washington Medicaid Integration Project. This project seeks to integrate and coordinate all Medicaid-funded services through a primary provider. The RSNs have taken the position that all services be provided/funded by mental health plans (e.g., outpatient, inpatient and crisis) must be the responsibility of primary providers. True integration must incorporate all services that are currently the responsibility of RSNs.

Liz provided an update on some of the new Criminal Justice (CJ) initiatives. To date 77 referrals have been made for housing vouchers, which is on target to provide supported housing to 130 inmates by the end of 2003.

The Co-Occurring Disorder (COD) tier reported 15-16 referrals, all served by Seattle Mental Health and Community Psychiatric Clinic, with no treatment failures to date. The methadone vouchers program reported that 66% of those referred are in treatment and of 33% not in treatment, most are “no shows”.

X. CLOSING

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.